



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Billing Code 9111-97

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[OMB Control Number 1615-0052]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Application for Naturalization, Form N-400; Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.

Action: 30-Day Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection notice was previously published in the Federal Register on December 20, 2012, at 77 FR 75440, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. USCIS did receive multiple comments in connection with the 60-day notice.

DATES: The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until [Insert date 30 days from date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER]. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, must be directed to the OMB USCIS Desk Officer via e-mail at oir_submission@omb.eop.gov. The comments submitted to the OMB USCIS Desk Officer may also be submitted to DHS via the Federal eRulemaking Portal Web site at <http://www.regulations.gov> under e-Docket ID number

USCIS-2008-0025 or via e-mail at uscisfrcomment@uscis.dhs.gov. All submissions received must include the agency name and the OMB Control Number 1615-0052.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments:

Regardless of the method used for submitting comments or material, all submissions will be posted, without change, to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov, and will include any personal information you provide. Therefore, submitting this information makes it public. You may wish to consider limiting the amount of personal information that you provide in any voluntary submission you make to DHS. For additional information please read the Privacy Act notice that is available via the link in the footer of www.regulations.gov.

Note: The address listed in this notice should only be used to submit comments concerning this information collection. Please do not submit requests for individual case status inquiries to this address. If you are seeking information about the status of your individual case, please check “My Case Status” online at: <https://egov.uscis.gov/cris/Dashboard.do>, or call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points:

- (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

USCIS continually reviews its information collection tools for accuracy, completeness, and utility and, as a result, the agency is proposing the addition of a number of questions to Form N-400. These additional questions will allow USCIS to make more informed decisions on the eligibility of respondents to the form. Form N-400 is the final information collection activity that occurs before an eligibility determination for naturalization is made. Even if the applicant for naturalization has received a previous immigration benefit from USCIS, the length of time that may have transpired between the initial interaction that the respondent had with USCIS on another immigration benefit request and the filing of the N-400 requires USCIS to verify that actions taken by the respondent during the intervening years do not affect his or her eligibility for naturalization. The form is also updated to examine the inadmissibility grounds that were added by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. Pub. L. 108–458 (Dec. 17, 2004). USCIS added these questions as required by the agreement reached through a working group comprised of representatives of affected agencies, including the Department of Justice and Department of State, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of DHS. These additional questions are necessary for USCIS to meet the statutory requirements and the President’s directive to make a determination that a person is ineligible to naturalize because of his or her past involvement with terrorism, persecution, torture, or genocide. See, Presidential Proclamation--Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Persons Who Participate in Serious Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Violations and Other Abuses, at

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/08/04/presidential-proclamation-suspension-entry-immigrants-and-nonimmigrants->. Because Form N-400 has changed significantly, the burden estimate in this notice is not based on the experience and observations of actual public usage. USCIS would appreciate and encourages the public's input on the burden estimate so as to provide the most accurate estimate possible.

Overview of this Information Collection:

- (1) Type of Information Collection Request: Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.
- (2) Title of the Form/Collection: Application for Naturalization.
- (3) Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the DHS sponsoring the collection: N-400; USCIS.
- (4) Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:
Primary: Individuals or households. USCIS uses the information gathered on Form N-400 to make a determination as to a respondent's eligibility to naturalize and become a United States citizen.
- (5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond: 764,450 respondents with an estimated response per respondent of 6 hours and 55 minutes for the form N-400 and 1 hour and 17 minutes for the biometric processing.

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:

6,182,108 Hours. This is a change from the estimated burden per response reported on the 60-day Federal Register Notice published at 77 FR 75440.

If you need a copy of the information collection instrument with supplementary documents, or need additional information, please visit <http://www.regulations.gov>. We may also be contacted at: USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20529-2140; Telephone 202-272-8377.

March 15, 2013

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Chief,
Regulatory Coordination Division,
Office of Policy and Strategy,
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,
Department of Homeland Security.

Date

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